

*New Zealand Methodist Bible Class
Movement*

"The Utmost For The Highest"

Centenary Camps Souvenir

EASTER, 1922

- Young Women's Dominion Camp, Larnach's Castle, Dunedin*
- Young Men's Dominion Camp, Maidstone Park, Wellington*
- Young Men's District Camp, Kaiapoi, Canterbury*
- Young Men's District Camp, Point Chevalier, Auckland*
- Young Men's District Camp, Vauxhall, Dunedin*

Dominion Centenary Camps Souvenir, Easter, 1922.

FOREWORD.

Few who were present will forget the Bible Class Camps of the Centenary year. Men and women came away from them feeling that Christian discipleship had taken on a new meaning, and resolved nevermore to swerve from utter loyalty to Jesus Christ. But we do not live in Camps. We have to come down from the summits. We lose the inspiration of numbers, and must fight our after-battles alone or in little companies. How, then, can we keep the vision of the mountain-top when we descend into the lowlands? How can the altar-fires, kindled in Pentecosts, keep their glow in common hours? How can resolve grow stronger and issue in zeal and sacrifice and brave ventures for Christ?

This much is clear. God is not confined to Camps. He Who spoke in our hearts there, is an abiding presence in our lives. "Certainly I will be with thee," He said to His servant of old, and in Christ the word becomes, "Lo, I am with you alway." If we trust Him fully, if we seek His face in sincere and daily prayer, if we are obedient to every voice of His Spirit, we shall never miss the keeping, strengthening, guiding power of God.

But, further, emotion and resolve are not ends in themselves. They must express themselves in action. There must be no impression without corresponding expression. Recall the third maxim of Professor William James in his great chapter on

Habit: "Seize the very first possible opportunity to act on every resolution you make, and on every emotional prompting you may experience in the direction of the habits you aspire to gain." And later: "Keep the faculty of effort alive in you by a little gratuitous exercise every day." These are golden counsels for the religious life. Feeling must utter itself or perish. Happiness unshared becomes tasteless, and is lost. Life shallows out when it grows selfish. If we nurse God's blessing in our hearts, and do not pass it on to others, we but play the part of the Rich Fool in the spiritual world. We must hold back nothing from the service of our Lord. We must make our lives count for the good of others. We must circulate the joy and inspiration of the Camps. Then the blessing of those great days will enter permanently into our lives and deepen with the years.

Methodism expects much from her young people to-day. They are her confidence and hope. She loves them with desire, she claims them for Christ, she calls them to her service. They are not failing her. The future is safe in their hands. They will catch up the standards and bear them forward to unthought-of victories. The story of the Easter Camps is the proof of this.

C. H. LAWS,
President of Conference,
Centenary Year, 1922.

N.Z.Y.W.M.B.C.U.

Dominion

Centenary Camp,

*Held at Larnach's
Castle, Dunedin.*



YOUNG WOMEN'S DOMINION CAMP GROUP.

NEW ZEALAND UNION OFFICERS:

President: Sister Emily; Secretary: Miss G. Gibbs;
Treasurer: Miss M. Adams; Travelling Secretary: Miss D. Lynn, B.A.

CAMP EXECUTIVE:

Camp Mother: Mrs. Adamson; Camp Mother's Aid:
Miss H. Rosevear; Secretary: Miss D. Rosevear;
Treasurer: Miss P. West; Transport Officer:
Miss M. Raine; Commissariat: Miss M. Adams.

Happy Easter, 1922.—Inspiration came to all Campers in some way at the Easter Camp of 1922. It is our hope that some of this inspiration may come to those who read.

Accommodation.—From the time of leaving Dunedin Station on "those 'buses" there was a feeling of expectation and mys-

tery connected with our place of camp. This feeling was more than ever increased as we entered the Castle grounds, and by the dim light of candles groped our way through dark bedrooms, over unexpected steps, up narrow stairways, to find our respective identification discs. As far as accommodation was concerned, conditions were ideal, for surely never before have B.C. girls lived in a Castle.

Organisation.—That first evening one could not help feeling that many hands and feet must have grown weary before this place could be made habitable for 160 girls. Before we, as visiting campers, could come to a place prepared, our motherly Camp-mothers (three cheers for them!), our President, Secretary, and Executive, with all their willing helpers, had to spend many days in preparation. Our sympathies were with the Transport Staff, under the

able generalship of Mrs. B. Metson and Miss M. Raine, as they were besieged by girls, and still more girls, all clamouring for their luggage.

Commissariat.—As each day came, the Commissariat, under the leadership of Miss Adams, proved itself quite equal to supplying the demands of 160 hungry girls. Sausages, fish, tomatoes, ham, cheese, apples, pears, and in fact all kinds of fruit, meat, and vegetables in due course found their rightful resting place. Oh, yes, meal time was happy and “Quiet” (?).

Social.—Appetites were made keen by the daily constitutions. Those who walked to the Soldiers’ Memorial were regarded as heroines. They did not do it twice—just blisters!

The Castle grounds afforded ample opportunity for exploration. Unexpected glimpses of harbour and ocean, hills and valleys, enhanced the attractiveness of Camp, which did supply those numerous opportunities of being friendly—no introduction—just, “Oh, who are you?” “From Wanganui.” Then talks began, and walks began, and such deep talks, such joyous walks, for can there be girls together without singing and joyousness, and sociability? Dunedin weather said “No” to the much talked-of harbour excursion; but impromptu concerts of New Zealand talent defied this weather. The Camp was indeed fortunate in having such songsters as the Otago girls, who, under the baton of Miss Raine, at various times made music in the Ballroom, otherwise the Assembly Hall.

There was joy and inspiration on Visitors’ Day. Motor cars and buses brought out our friends, and we had an afternoon of goodwill. We as hostesses led our visitors through and around, just everywhere and at any time, for you see Mr. Larnach fashioned a castle so wonderful that all were curious to see every part.

Programme.—Camp worked to programme—a programme showing care and thought in the choice of those things that add

depth, peace, and joy to a girl’s life. Each day commenced with prayer, and each evening found Camp hushed, as Sister Ruth gathered us round God’s Throne in communion—communion of praise for all each day had brought, of hope for what was to come, and of peace for what Christ meant to us.

In these times of intercession Christ did seem to drop His still dews of quietness, and our hearts were open to the inbreathing of His Spirit.

Circles.—An hour a day found small groups of seven or eight in Study Circles. Here Campers, as “Learners of Jesus,” with their leaders, talked together, as to how they could become “Doers” of Jesus. “Show us the Father” was the Study Book. Just as Jesus lived to “Show us the Father,” so must we, trusting in His power, venture in service to do, and be something always “showing the Father.”

Addresses.—Camp was enriched by those who came each evening to speak to the girls. Mrs. Brown, Sisters Maud and Nicholls, and Miss Lynn talked to us of the vital things of life.

The Rev. Rugby Pratt, who addressed us on two occasions, conducted the Communion Service on Good Friday morning, and gave the first deep touch to Camp. Mr. McFarlane made us question within ourselves not only “Who was the Jesus Christ of History?” but “Who is He?” as far as we are concerned. Rev. C. Eaton helped us to realise the uplifting power of the Spirit. Dr. Waddell rang out the insistent challenge of The Risen Lord. Rev. R. Raine made us feel the compelling power of the Love of God, which if it be in our hearts will make us long to help others, and Rev. C. H. Laws, D.D., President of the Conference, on the last evening, set the seal upon Camp—the seal of service.

Annual Meeting.—On Saturday morning, after prayers, preparation and study circle, the Annual Business meeting was held at 11.15 a.m. Mrs. Brown, of Invercargill,

opened with prayer, and then the Minutes of the Annual Meeting, held in Auckland, Easter, 1921, were read and confirmed. Greetings were received from Mrs. Boyes, and a letter was received from the Wellington Young Men's Union congratulating our N.Z. Union on the appointment of a Travelling Organising Secretary. Greetings were sent to the Young Men's Camp at Maidstone Park. Reporters to the press and the "Methodist Times," and "Echo" were appointed. Miss G. Gibbs, N.Z. Secretary, then read the annual report, which was adopted. The following is a brief summary of the report:—

Total affiliated classes for Dominion, 129.

Affiliations during the year, 25.

Membership of Unions: Auckland 425, Wellington 384, Canterbury 310, Wanganui 234, Otago 150. Total membership for N.Z., 1503.

Travelling Secretary. — One feature which made this Dunedin Camp especially important was the fact that this was the first appearance of Miss Delight Lynn in her official capacity as Travelling Secretary. One could not help feeling the enthusiasm with which the girls welcomed her, and there was an assurance of whole-hearted resolve to help Miss Lynn in her work. This new venture of our N.Z. Union means much to all those who love the Union, and all that has been put into it by the beloved pioneers of B.C. work. As we all met Miss Lynn we felt that she has much to give to the Movement.

So ended Camp—ended only to begin a fulfilment of all that the Jesus Christ of Camp will mean in the lives of the girls, equipped afresh for the Splendid Quest.



SITE OF YOUNG MEN'S DOMINION CENTENARY CAMP, WELLINGTON.

Dominion Centenary Celebration Camp,

Held at Maidstone Park, Upper Hutt, Wellington.

N.Z. Executive Council.—Hon. President, Rev. C. H. Laws, D.D., President of Conference; President: Mr. F. Thompson; Vice-Presidents: Revs. E. P. Blamires and W. Walker, and Mr. L. L. Jones; Secretary and Editor: Mr. W. L. Thomas; Treasurer: Mr. H. Armitage; Hon. National Visitor: Mr. C. R. Edmond.



District Representatives.—Auckland, Mr. E. H. Smith; South Auckland, Mr. E. H. Down; Wanganui, Mr. H. Beaumont; Manawatu, Mr. H. Queree; Wellington, Mr. F. G. Colechin; Canterbury, Mr. A. Holden; Otago, Mr. M. Paulger.



DOMINION CENTENARY CAMP GROUP.

Camp Executive Officers.—Camp Captain: Mr. C. R. Edmond; Camp Sergeant-Major: Mr. E. H. Downer; Musical Director: Mr. W. B. Strong; Pianist: Mr. W. H. Armstrong; Secretary: Mr. A. E. Bate; Registrar: Mr. L. A. Swift.

Conveners of Committees.—Chairman of Executive Committee: Mr. J. L. Garrard; Meetings: Rev. G. E. Brown; Sports and Entertainment: Mr. G. C. Burton; Accommodation: Mr. E. L. F. Buxton; Commissariat: Mr. J. L. Garrard; Transport: Messrs. K. E. Balchin and W. H. Armstrong; Advertising: Mr. W. H. J. Watson; Camp Engineer: Mr. H. J. Steptoe.

MAIDSTONE PARK, EASTER, 1922.

In writing these notes, we endeavour to place on record some of the doings of those four great days spent in Maidstone Park during Easter, 1922. We do not attempt a full report, the object of our Souvenir being to serve as a reminder of happy days.

Maidstone Park! What sacred memories that name will recall to the 250 young men whose privilege it was to be there. What greetings! What hand-shakings there were on that Thursday evening, when the "old-timers" met once more in the genial atmosphere of the "Big Marquee!" It was a crowd of sleepy, but cheerful faces, which looked up from behind biscuits and over gigantic mugs of steaming refreshments that the Camp Captain saw as at supper on Thursday night he extended a welcome to all campers.

Right at the start and on till the breaking up, a splendid spirit of comradeship was manifest in camp. This was shown in the hearty groups to be found at almost any hour singing round the piano, in the cheerfulness with which any routine work was carried out, and in the smiling faces everywhere. A remarkable sense of loyalty to the Executive was displayed in the matter of fatigues,

especially was this the case on Saturday, when a luncheon fatigue party was summoned. The ardour with which some of those orderlies worked could well have been spread over preparation for tent inspection.

Sing-songs which appeared on the programme more frequently than in any previous Camp, were popular from the beginning, and who in those days did not find new meanings in some hymns so often sung, and who did not learn to love our Musical Director? All over the Park could be heard the strains of music bursting from the Meetings Tent, and if tune was sometimes lacking, it was more than made up for by enthusiasm. Many campers will allow their minds to go back to Maidstone Park when singing "When the Roll," "What a Friend," or "When I survey the Wondrous Cross." How these hymns were sung, and re-sung, each time with a greater depth of meaning!

THE CONTEST FOR THE ELOCUTIONARY CUP.

The Elocutionary Cup was contested for on Good Friday. The Senior Prepared Speech competition attracted three entrants. L. A. Swift (Northland), who spoke on the "Influence of Methodism on our National Life of New Zealand," was awarded first place, with 37 points. W. E. Bate (Napier), whose address on the same subject, was certainly more optimistic, was placed second, with one point less.

In the contest for Impromptu speech-making honours, the subject of "Do We Over-Eat" was considered seriously by five competitors. Alas! for the Camp Captain, for his manly form (the slenderness of which is fresh in our memories), was here used by one of the competitors as an argument in support of the affirmative side of the question. L. A. Swift, with 19 points, and R. Horrobin (Taranaki Street), with 16 points, filled the first two places on the list.

Some very fine work was put into the Bible and Hymn Reading. L. A. Swift again excelled, and W. E. Bate gained second place, with one point less than the winner.

In the Junior Division, the Prepared Speech was won by E. Hurley (Taranaki Street), who delivered a concise and comprehensive oration on the life of "John Wesley." There were two other competitors.

Some good advice was given by the same three to the Commissariat Committee on the advantages and drawbacks of including "hard biscuits" on the supper menu. We trust all Ministers for the Interior, or any aspirants for those honours in future camps, will take note of some of the remarks of these youthful orators. Thayer (Wanganui) was awarded first place.

In the Reading Contest, the form displayed by E. Hurley was again sufficiently good to secure the prize.

The highest aggregates were gained by L. A. Swift (Northland), with 80 points, and W. E. Bate (Napier), with 74 points, in the Senior Division. In the Junior Grade, E. Hurley (Taranaki Street) secured one more point than Eagles (Ngaio), whose total was 68.

"OUR PRESIDENT."

One of the greatest privileges the Camper enjoyed was the presence of the President of Conference, Rev. C. H. Laws, D.D. His address on Good Friday morning was a feast of comforting and inspiring words. As in thought he gathered us round the Cross, we felt anew how near the Spirit of God may draw to us. In beautiful, well-chosen words he pointed out to us the real message of the Cross, "The symbol of the Sacrifice of Love." The singing of the closing hymn, "When I survey the Wondrous Cross," was an event which lifted every one present to a very great height of worship. As

with uplifted hands, those two hundred and fifty men sang the last verse, they re-consecrated their lives to the service of the Master. We left that service feeling that we had met with our Master, and our hearts were strangely warmed within us.

The popularity of our President was evidenced after the service by his reception at the official welcome at lunch time. As he rose to respond to his welcome, he was met by musical honours, "Three times three."

CENTENARY MEETING.

The great Centenary Meeting in the evening was an inspiration to those who had not before realised the strength and extent of our Church's development in the past hundred years.

The Rev. C. H. Laws, D.D., President of Conference, took the chair, and as the greetings rolled in from the different District Camps, we thrilled at the realisation of the great numbers of Methodist young men gathered under canvas throughout New Zealand with the same aims and ideals as our own.

Greetings were received from each of the following:—The Missionaries to the Solomons; Mr. Frank Thompson, President N.Z. Young Men's B.C. Movement; Mr. L. M. Isitt, M.P., Vice-President Conference; Interdenominational Camp at Ngaruahia; Mr. Parker, of Blenheim; Thorndon Circuit; N.Z. Alliance; Rev. H. E. Bellhouse; and Mr. Reg. Boys, Palmerston North.

These were all gratefully received, and in return we sent our greetings to them, as well as to the following Camps:—District Camp, Kaiapoi (Canterbury) District Camp, Vauxhall (Dunedin) District Camp, Point Chevalier (Auckland), Nelson Y.M. C.A., and Methodist Camp, Presbyterian Camp at Wanganui, and the Young Women's Camp at Dunedin.

Following this, the Chairman announced the results of the Elocutionary Competitions, which were heartily received.

As Mr. L. A. Swift had won the Bible and Hymn Reading Competition, he was called upon to read the lesson for the evening service.

In his chairman's address, Rev. C. H. Laws spoke a few words to us, expressive of the responsibility of the young men to support every department of our great Church.

The Rev. A. C. Lawry, our speaker for the evening, was called upon to speak to us on "The Message of Methodism to Young Men." He handled his subject in his usual capable manner, which was marked by a deeply spiritual tone, which appealed to the highest in us all. During his address, he said that God had used one young man and one young woman in a great manner for the advancement of His Kingdom one hundred years before. What could He do with the hundreds of young men and women connected with our Church to-day? In such words, he appealed to us all to "Fight the good fight with all our might," and "Put on the whole armour of God."

The address was listened to with the greatest appreciation, and the applause which followed showed in some measure our gratitude to our friend for his inspiring words.

The rain beginning to fall at this period, our President suggested our continuing the meeting in an informal manner.

Rev. E. P. Blamires then spoke, and told us of the question which was being asked of him by different people—"The past century has been a great one, **but** what about the new century? Can the young people carry on?" In appealing words he called on us to spell out, by our lives, the answer to the challenge.

SPORTS AND SOCIAL.

In the social and sporting side of camp life Saturday was certainly the great day. Following upon the advice of the Camp Captain, the half-hour

between Circle Study and breakfast that day was occupied by nearly every one in carrying out special personal beautifying schemes around their tents, in readiness for the reception of the visitors. Considerable enthusiasm was evident at 9.30 a.m., when the opening events of the heavy athletic programme were being contested, and by the time the visitors arrived the sports meeting was going strong. After the inspection of tents by the visitors had taken place, the track was soon lined with happy cheering friends, each urging to greater efforts their own particular fancy. In passing, we wonder who that lucky boy was whose fond parent so carefully examined his blankets. We trust the inspection proved satisfactory.

Saturday was the big day for the canteen. This institution, under the wing of the Commissariat Committee, was destined, or designed to supplement any short rationing at meal times. It also functioned successfully as a miniature Rialto at afternoon tea time. At lunch the Campers were hosts to the Wellington Y.W.M.B.C.U., and right royally were they treated. Fatigue duty for this meal was the most envied of all in Camp. We wonder why! Throughout the afternoon the sports continued. Among the many competitors the most brilliant performance was put up by R. Eady (Auckland). The following is a complete list of events and results:—

OPEN.

100yds.: 1. Burton (W), 10 4-5sec.; 2. Eady (A).

220yds.: 1. Burton (W), 25 2-5sec.; 2. Crosbie (W).

440yds.: 1. Dorrington (A), 62sec.; 2. Jones (W).

880yds.: 1. Dorrington (A), 2min 17 4-5sec.; 2. Hill (W).

One Mile: 1. Hill (W), 5min 11 1-5sec.; 2. Dorrington (A).

Three Miles: 1. Hill (W), 17min 43 1-5sec.; 2. Gittings (W).

High Jump: 1. Eady (A), 4ft. 8in.; 2. Peebles (A).

Broad Jump: 1. Burton (W), 19ft. 6in.; 2. Eady (A).

Hop, Step and Jump: Burton (W), 39ft. 6in.; 2. Sparling (A).

Putting Shot: 1. Burton (W), 38ft. 7½in.; 2. Eady (A).

One Mile Walk: 1, Hickling (W), 7min. 44sec.; 2, W. E. Bate (Napier).

Relay: 1, Auckland A; 2, Wellington A; 3, Wellington B.

JUNIOR.

100yds.: 1, Eady (A), 11 3-5sec.; 2, Freeman (W).

220yds.: 1, Eady (A), 26 1-5sec.; 2, Freeman (W).

440yds.: 1, Eady (A), 60sec.; 2, Freeman (W).

880yds.: 1, Eady (A), 2min. 20 4-5sec.; 2, Cornes (A).

One Mile: 1, Cornes (A), 5min. 34 3-5sec.; 2, Alley (W).

Three Miles: 1, Freeman (W); 2, White (W).

High Jump: 1, Alley (W), 4ft. 9in.; 2, Claridge (Christchurch).

Broad Jump: 1, Eady (A) 16ft. 11½in.; 2, Thompson (Dvke).

Hop, Step and Jump: 1, Eady (A), 38ft. 6½in.; 2, Alley (W).

Putting Shot: 1, Eady (A), 31ft. 5½in.; 2, Wilson (W).

Open Aggregate: Burton (Taranaki Street), 10 points; Dorrington (Mt. Eden), Eady (Mt. Eden), and Hill (Thornodon), 5 points each.

Junior Aggregate: Eady (Mt. Eden), 14 points; Freeman (Taranaki Street), 5 points.

Banner: Auckland, 24 points; Wellington, 24 points.
W—Wellington. A—Auckland.

At the evening meal the Campers were the guests of the Wellington Y.W.M.B.C.U., and, as at dinner, the repast was enjoyed by everyone. After the great day of sport in the open air, the Camp concert came as a welcome respite from action. The Camp Captain occupied the chair, and made several announcements which brought joy to all present. He told us that there were at least 748 young Methodist men in camps over Easter. More important still was the announcement intimating that the various Unions had guaranteed to stand by the financial allocation made by the Annual Convention in connection with the Travelling Secretary for the Movement. The Rev. E. P. Blamires was then officially welcomed by the Young Men's Movement on his appointment to the position of Sunday School and Young People's Organiser. In reply, he called upon the Campers, when they returned to the plain, to hold on with both hands to

the vision on the mountain top. The President of the Conference then presented the Athletic prizes, the Dominion Banner, and the Elocutionary Cup and Trophy. Following these preliminaries, the concert programme was proceeded with, and a most enjoyable time was spent in listening to many fine individual items, as well as choruses, etc., from such well-known classes as Feilding, Northland, Hastings, W.Y.M.I., and Brooklyn. Each item was enthusiastically received, and everyone left feeling that it had been a fitting ending to a great day.

IMPRESSIONS OF CAMP BIBLE STUDIES.

Following upon the lead given last year at Motutapu, a series of daily Bible studies were prepared, each tent constituting a complete Study Circle. The theme of the studies was "The Advance of the Kingdom," by T. M. Haslett, M.A., and from these meetings emanated to a large extent the spirit of devotion and service which was so prominent in all the Camp meetings.

We went to Maidstone Park as Campers, but at once our studies gave us a bigger name—we were now Soldiers—Soldiers of the King. In our decision for Christ we had changed our clothes, and had been given a new life, a life with higher ideals—a life with a definite object. Certain conditions were set out which we must fulfil if we would become true soldiers; these were difficult, but what of that. Nothing worth having can be had for the taking. We must have a Repentance that is something more than Sorrow for sin; Believe with a Belief that, though small to-day, will grow with our Experience of God and His Salvation. Simplicity,—how hard it is to cultivate the "Single Eye"—to entirely forget oneself; and Service—a word so much misunderstood—service in the small, bothering things as much as in prominent works.

Our second study was headed "Under Orders." How they startled us. "Give up everything." It sounds hard, but do we have to give up anything

worth keeping? Do we not rather, in exchange for the "weights" that we drop, get in return "Life"? Our Sunday morning service gave us some inspiring thoughts on "Life." Then again, "Can we **pray** if we are not prepared to go?" brought the matter home to us in a most forcible way. Our instructions are so definite and compelling: "Go, tell your friends," "Go, stand in the Temple and proclaim," make a public report, even unto the uttermost part of the earth.

What a new and striking light on the Parable of the workers from the Market Place. Not a thought of the reward but pointing to the amount of work to be done. "Why are you standing round idle?" Can we offer any excuse when Sunday School, local preaching, the Ministry, are calling? There is the widest field of service in Christ's Kingdom, so how can we stand idle?

Our third study was "The Spirit of the Road." Here we were taken out of ourselves and shown the glory of helping the other fellow. The Life of the Road is not easy, it will be strenuous and hard; but there will always be something to do. We must develop the spirit of brotherly co-operation; love our neighbours (not an expression of emotion, but a calm, practical love), be ready to do the next thing, serving the "least of these." Loving our brothers must be included in our love for God. The whole of our life must be spent in brotherly service.

Then the last study, "Our Resources," reminded us that the Christian life is a harder one than generally supposed as we must so closely follow our Master. We were faced with "Why should we act as if we thought we could drift into being 'Christians?'" Men don't act that way with their life's work. If we look upon Christianity as a "haven" we might let ourselves drift, but if it is to us a venture, "Life's Greatest Venture," we must seek "with all our heart." We were urged to give a certain portion of our alert thought by regular devotions and Bible reading, and to let nothing inter-

fere. No man can travel the way of a strong life without Prayer; Christ had to pray often, and surely we must do so also. He made time when and where He could, but always prayed before He acted. "To find God and how to come to Him in prayer is to have discovered the great way into the adventurous life." Our closing inspiration, "Finally, Brethren, be strong in the Lord, and the power of His might," was a benediction.

No fellow in camp is likely to have come away without being brought on to a higher plane of life by these studies, no matter how indifferent his attention may have been. I think it will be agreed that the tent Study Circles again demonstrated their great value—the smaller circle brought home the very searching questions, and allowed a greater number to take part in the discussions, as well as making it easier for questions to be asked.

EASTER SUNDAY.

The sun rose in an unclouded sky. A slight frost had left the grass crisp, and the air was eager. Reveille brought several squads to Physical Jerks. All who took part came back in a full glow of healthy vigour, alert to enjoy the hour set apart for devotion in the tents. The wooded hills on either side shimmered gloriously in the morning air, and the quietness of the camp, with its glistening tents, lent a Sabbatic charm to everything. Gradually there arose the quiet murmur of earnest conversation, as men chatted over the Spirit that should actuate them on the road of life. Face to face with the thought of the risen Lord and the wonderful spirit of good cheer and helpfulness He displayed, the personal appeal went home to all hearts.

After breakfast, the leaders of tents gathered in a quiet spot near the sports field, and prepared for the final study to take place on Monday morning.

The bugle note and the sound of the piano at 10.30 a.m. called the whole Camp to Easter Sunday

Morning Service. Hearty singing left the meeting in good shape for the leadership of the Rev. C. H. Laws, D.D. The prayers led us into the presence of God. The theme was "Life abundant," the text John 10:10, "I am come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly." The President led those present to think of man ever reaching out for the exhaustless riches of life, his perpetual climb, his constant hunger after fuller and richer experiences. Christ was pointed out as "the open sesame" of life. By a graduation the speaker bade us look at the various worlds life made possible to man, and of how there was an order whereby one transcended the other. We found ourselves in the



world of senses, and the great life through them enabling us to see far and hear deeply, and how the life of comfort ministered to them. The world of wealth was open to man. We were exhorted to refrain from trusting in it. Then the wonder world of the mind was spoken of, with its appreciation of music, art, literature, the unfettered thought spanning space and remaining with us.. to go into eternity. Higher than all these was the heart life, with its capacity for tenderness, sympathy, friendship, love, and forgiveness. To go wrong here was to go wrong everywhere, and all would be lost. One thing still remained, and that was the unsatisfied longing for a still higher experience of the



"TUCKER TIME," DOMINION CAMP.

riches of God's grace, the life abundant, whereby we could hold fellowship with the life here and the life to come. In Christ such could be found, and we were urged to go quietly away and think over life's important issues. It was a service that left a deep impression on all present. So intense was the spiritual atmosphere that one felt almost as if, by putting a hand out, one could feel God.

Dinner was promptly served at 12.45 p.m., and, for a while, the Camp enjoyed itself in the sun and fresh air. Everything about was bright and fresh and clean, and the birds sang their best. Again the bugle sounded, when the whole Camp repaired to the big marquee for the Model Bible Classes, Senior and Junior. Meeting first unitedly, later the Juniors moved off to the Y.M.C.A. marquee, the famous marquee that did duty during the sternest phases of the war while the Y.M.C.A. was with the N.Z. Division in France. The united meeting was devotional in character, and prepared us for the studies to follow.

SENIOR MODEL BIBLE CLASS.

Subject: "The Call of the Century to the Bible Class Men."

The meeting was in charge of the Manawatu Sub-Union, under the chairmanship of Rev. E. E. Sage. That so many gathered in the meetings tent that afternoon spoke well for the devotion of the men in Camp to the Bible Class, as the outside world called insistently—the golden sunshine bathing everything in its glory, the warm air, the cool, gentle wind just moving the air, the hills clad in their many shaded greens, all called to us, yet there was a goodly number in attendance.

After singing, a series of prayers and a reading from Phillipians, the subject was opened for us by A. H. Joyce, Feilding. The paper was an excellent one, and its construction should be an example for others to follow. The subject was a large one, and the writer touched on his many points in such a way as to provoke thought—no point was exhaust-

ed, but at the same time enough was said on each to give us a good idea of the essayist's meaning. It was due to this that so many men were ready to enlarge or question immediately the meeting was "thrown open." Some of the points were "Leigh's Trust calls us to Venture," "The Call to Loyalty," "Lofty Ideals," "Consecrated Energy," "Call for Leaders," "The Call to Regular Prayer and Bible Study," "The Call of a Need, and the Power to Meet that Need," "So Many Choose and Plan Their Life Without a Thought of God," "The Bible Class Calls Men to Answer God's Call," "It is a Personal Appeal to Each Member," "The Call for a Broader Outlook." Then the writer finished with a straight question, "What are we going to do?" The paper was finished almost before we had got accustomed to listening, and we were left with many thoughts to digest. Then followed a number of papers given by the Manawatu men, each man taking for his topic one of the points brought out by the main paper. When these were finished opportunity was given for discussion, and men rose up from all over the tent to add their contribution to the subject. Time was gone all too soon, and the Class was closed with a fine appeal by the Chairman, in which we were urged to answer these calls, and reminding us that our faith in God would provide us with the equipment. It was a splendid meeting, and we all went away feeling that we had once more caught a vision, showing us wherein lay our part in the "Advance of the Kingdom," and resolving to put forth our utmost effort to fulfil that part.

JUNIOR MODEL BIBLE CLASS.

Subject: "Some Aims of the Junior Bible Class."

In the Y.M.C.A. marquee the Juniors had a good time. The Canterbury Union was in charge, and had made full arrangements. Mr. W. L. Thomas, National Secretary, presided. An associate leader and a Secretary were elected, and took their places. After prayer, the Scripture lesson

was followed by members quoting favourite passages, giving reasons why. The Chairman delivered his paper on "Some Aims of a Junior Bible Class." Treating his subject from within and without, he sought to sketch it to suggest the wonderful opportunity through the Junior Bible Class of successfully catering for the fourfold needs of boys. First came a fascinating picture of the emergence of Jim from James and Jimmie. We could almost see Jim, the manly Christian fellow, the old scout and trusted leader, who had come up through the fiery struggle. Points that arose during the paper spoke of the finding of Christ in the leader of the Class, the boy's religious and moral difficulties, his search for an ideal, the government of the Class by the boys for the boys, proper grading in Classes, the all-round programme, the field of opportunity for rich contacts without, including co-operation with the boy's work of the Y.M.C.A., and the splendid challenge boys could sustain in service. The discussion on the paper was led by Messrs. Frank Hayman, Alan Barnes, and Bert Armitage, all of Canterbury. Several speakers followed, giving helpful suggestions, and recording experiences in leading Junior Bible Classes. A motion to the following effect was submitted and passed unanimously:—

"That in the opinion of the meeting, the Junior Bible Class is the best institution for the supplying of a boy's all-round needs, and for inspiring him in service for the race."

Mr. J. L. Hay, General Secretary of the Wellington Y.M.C.A., as an old Bible Class man, gave a word of encouragement to all by his firm advocacy of the Bible Class as the best means of meeting the needs of a boy at his critical time. The Benediction closed a helpful meeting.

Returning to the main marquee, opportunity was taken by the Camp Captain, Mr. C. R. Edmond, to extend a warm welcome to a deputation from the Baptist Camp. Mr. W. L. Thomas referred to

the Camp at Christchurch in 1907, when the Baptists, Presbyterians, and Methodists met together. Based upon a fundamental appeal to the best in young men, we could all unite for such purposes and tender helpful inspirations to each other in our common task. Mr. Nees, on behalf of the Baptist Campers, cheerfully responded, his speech finding ready acceptance in the hearts and minds of the hearers.

The adjournment for tea found an eager throng at the tables, and the extra bill-of-fare as a Sunday treat was another testimony to the wise understanding and sympathetic thoughtfulness of our inimitable Commissariat, Mr. J. L. Garrard. There was cake, too, all the way from Canterbury, for the little tea party to our Baptist friends. After tea, the Camp wore quite a deserted appearance. Scattered here and there parties were at little intercessory meetings, seeking for the power that would bring young men into full association with Jesus Christ. Word went forth that in one of these meetings six Wellington lads made the supreme choice.

Preliminary to the evening service, Mr. W. B. Strong led the Camp in song. Right throughout the Camp the singing had been both bright and inspiring. Untiringly Mr. Strong was at the fore always with a fresh song ready when one was concluded. The Y.M.C.A. Hymnal proved admirably suited to the needs of a Young Men's Camp. The singing on Sunday evening was significant not only for its heartiness, but also for its deep spiritual note. It came from hearts tenderly sympathetic to the touch of the Eternal. The roll call was here taken, scheduling 54 Classes, represented in 252 campers. Representatives from as far south as Invercargill were present, and given an ovation, as also large contingents from Auckland City.

The Rev. E. P. Blamires, Organising Secretary, took the service, and laid the claims of Jesus Christ very clearly and appealingly to the young men. We all sincerely appreciate Mr. Blamires's style, and

find his handling of a service of this character to be exceedingly effective. From first one angle, and then another, we were led to look at ourselves, and our need of Christ as Saviour and Friend. We felt decisions were made in that meeting. Our memory of similar fruitful addresses at Sumner, Stewart's Gully, Avoca Vale, Motutapu, help us to appreciate this constant and wise understanding of a young man's heart, and of the way to best appeal to it.

Immediately following this meeting was held the Communion Service. The majority of Campers stayed, and 190 took the bread and wine. Table and trestles were set for an altar, and over these were spread Kaiapoi and Mosgiel rugs. The Revs. Blamires, Stockwell, Sage, and Brown officiated. The service was most impressive, dignified, and helpful, satisfying the spiritual, ethical, and aesthetic demands of the young men's natures. We all felt led into the inner life of Christ's atonement, and held by His deathless passion. This was the Holy of Holies to the partakers.

Supper followed the Communion Service, and at 10 p.m. commenced the usual Camp meeting. This meeting is usually confined to testimony and the narration of difficulties in the Christian life. Beginning constrainedly under the leadership of the Rev. E. P. Blamires, the meeting gradually warmed. First, some of the old stalwarts made their testimony, to be followed later by the younger men. It was these younger men whom we all wished to hear. It was remarkable how many spoke of the strongly moving experience they had had in Camp, and of how they felt the hand of God upon them. Then the President, the Rev. C. H. Laws, D.D., appealed for decisions for Jesus Christ, and while heads were bowed, first one and then another signified willingness out of free choice to take Jesus as Saviour and Friend. Altogether some fifty young

men and boys either made decisions or reconsecrations. Leaders appealed for prayer for their Classes, Juniors gladdened other leaders' hearts by making decisions. Prayers were asked for wives, mothers, fathers, and sisters who had made possible the attendance of men at the Camp. Seeking a nearer vision of Christ was the concern of some local preachers. Others made dedication for the ministry, the foreign field, and the Y.M.C.A. This was the meeting of meetings, when young men faced their spiritual destinies and set in motion the harvest of the years. It is in such meetings as these that the spiritual character of our Movement takes its shape, sending everyone back more determined to make their Bible Classes a power for good in the cause of Christ and His Kingdom, besides shaping individually the course of their own lives. Lasting from 10 p.m. to 2.30 a.m., not one dull moment was experienced, none wanted to leave, and at no time was there undue emotion. The singing was magnificent, the old Camp Chorus being sung and re-sung.

In a final act of dedication, all present joined hands and commenced the Young Men's Centenary League of Prayer for a revived Church and a splendid second century in New Zealand Methodism. Prayer for the Camp had been constant, and glad were the leaders to find the grace of God in such abundant measure. The wonderful character of this meeting will, for all privileged to be present, form a fruitful and inspiring memory.

LEADERS' AND SECRETARIES' CONFERENCES.

These Conferences were held on Friday morning and Monday morning, and provoked much useful discussion. Questions of vital interest in the running of Classes and to the Movement generally were thoroughly discussed. Some leaders stated their difficulties, others their experiments, and all

sought to help one another by a closer vision of Bible Class ideals, and their expression in the Life of Young Men.

Two useful resolutions were carried. The first was to the effect:

"That in order to help Junior Bible Class leaders, the New Zealand Executive Council be requested to carefully consider the problem of how to run a Junior Bible Class, with a view to successful work." It was felt that more concentration was necessary, in order to secure the fullest use of our present opportunity of making the Junior Bible Class an important link in the chain of Church work.

Frank discussion ranged round the subject of future District Camps. In this connection, it was felt it would be wise in 1923 to organise a Camp in the Manawatu Sub-District Union. The Taranaki, Wanganui, and Hawke's Bay Classes were urged to link up with Palmerston North. Wanganui was urged in 1924 to hold a Camp of its own, attracting Taranaki Classes, with a view ultimately of Taranaki holding a Camp of its own somewhere about 1925. Suggestions were put forth with regard to South Auckland. It was felt this district should shortly proceed to establish an Annual Camp of its own. Should Southland be unable immediately to hold a District Camp, it was urged to, in the meantime, fall in with the Otago Union. Southland representatives, however, were encouraged to take the earliest opportunity of developing Bible Class interests in their own district through the medium of District Camps and Bible Class Rallies.

It was reported, concerning the Nelson Classes, that usually each year at Easter they joined with the Y.M.C.A. Easter Camp.

It was resolved: "That the Nelson Classes be urged to fall into line, as far as possible, with the Local Camps Policy of the New Zealand Movement,

and also contact with surrounding Classes with a view to establishing in 1923 a Local District Camp."

The Sunday School and Young People's Organising Secretary, Rev. E. P. Blamires, and Mr. W. L. Thomas, the National Secretary, were very much heartened by the interest taken in our common problems, and the enthusiasm of the leaders in connection with our forward policy.

PROHIBITION.

On Easter Monday morning, at 9 a.m., the Camp was addressed by the Rev. John Dawson concerning the above question, and the necessity of the young men's forces being marshalled in view of the Prohibition Poll to be held in December, 1922. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"This Dominion Centenary Camp, of 250 Methodist Bible Class members, recognising that the Liquor Traffic is a menace to moral and national life, and considering that Prohibition in other countries has been followed by moral, social, and industrial benefits, pledges itself to a determined effort at the next poll to secure the final overthrow of the Liquor Traffic in New Zealand."

FAREWELL.

On Monday (another visitors' day, by the way) the organised games took place, and although Wellington won nearly all of them, their opponents took their beating in good part, as becomes true sportsmen. Hockey, Soccer, and Rugby filled in the whole of the morning, and in the afternoon a ramble over the hills was held.

The closing meeting of the Camp was at dinner time that day. We were all a little sad to think that good things must come to an end sometime,

but under the cheery influence of Mr. Lawry, we soon brightened up. Then began the speeches of appreciation for the Camp officers. From Camp Captain to Camp Cook all received their "For he's a jolly good fellow," and three hearty cheers, such as Methodist fellows can give. The attitudes of the honoured ones were even a little pathetic, for, by their husky voices and self-conscious airs, they showed how much they appreciated the good things said about them. Day in and day out they



had worked to make the Camp a success. This was the proof that they had not laboured in vain. Long may Methodism have such sons to uphold her work in the Dominion!

Camp closed on Monday night amid sighs of regret and promises to meet again. Every fellow under canvas at Easter had the time of his life. We only hope that the District Camps to be held in the future will be as eminently successful as was the Centenary Camp, Maidstone Park, 1922.

Canterbury District Centenary Camp,

Held at Kaiapoi.

OFFICERS:

Camp Captain: Rev. R. B. Tinsley; Secretary, E. H. Smith; Assistant-Secretary: A. J. T. Clements; Treasurer: H. J. Down; Directors Sports: E. H. Down and A. L. Lewis; Directors Meetings: Rev. W. Walker, and F. Thompson; Directors Commissariat: A. Holden and F. G. Colechin; Director Transport: J. E. Colechin; Directors Accommodation: Rev. W. B. Scott and H. Armitage; Directors Entertainment: H. Beaumont and C. E. Beeby; Canteen Manager: A. J. T. Clements.

Our Campers.—Two hundred and fourteen of them. Boys all, from the sprightly 14-year-old to the scarcely less sprightly enthusiast of two score years and ten (with an odd year or two thrown in), all keen, all happy, all out to make the best of things.

They came from all parts of Canterbury—Waimate in the South, Hawarden in the North, Temuka,



Geraldine, Willowby, Tinwald, Ashburton, Waddington, Sheffield, Rangiora, Oxford, Kaiapoi, Lyttelton, Tai Tapu, Horrelville, Clarkville, Eyreton, and from almost every Church in and about Christchurch. Union (Addington), with 45, headed the attendance list as usual, while Ashburton put up a great record by sending up 29 representatives. Edgeware and New Brighton were also present in full force.

Town and country met, and both were the better for the meeting. Big-hearted, broad-chested farmers made fast friends with shrewd-headed "pale-faces" from the city. And what a willing crowd of workers they were, counting it all joy to peel potatoes, to carve joints, to wait on the hungry hordes, to do the thousand and one things that need to be done in and about a Camp such as ours. They formed a band that our Methodist Church in Canterbury may well be proud of.

Our Parsons.—They are a great lot, and the boys think the world of them. Those Ministers

who share in Camp the common lot of the boys are the Ministers whose influence will be greatest with our rising generation. Our Padres enjoyed their stay, and went back to their circuits with renewed courage and glowing hearts, for one cannot attend a B.C. Camp and remain a pessimist as to the future of our Church. Camp Captain R. B. Tinsley was just the man for the job, and ere the Camp ended

he had won the hearts of the boys; while the older and more experienced Campers admired him for the wise, unerring way in which he fulfilled his many duties. The discipline in the Camp was excellent; due to the wise but firm appeals of the Captain and the splendid spirit of response always in evidence amongst the Campers.



SITE OF CANTERBURY DISTRICT CAMP.

Rev. C. A. Foston was a stranger to most of us prior to the Camp, but no one could be with him two minutes and still remain a stranger. He enjoyed the Camp, and the Camp was certainly the better for his coming, and his cheery disposition. His enjoyment of menial tasks popularised him immensely. We would love to have Brother Foston as a permanent Camp fixture, as he was surely born for such camps as ours. May his merry presence grace other Camps.

Rev. A. N. Scotter went about continually with a smiling face, the evidence of a heart made happy through Camp associations. He, too, was just "one of the boys," and seemed to think it worth while. Revs. W. Walker and S. Bailey were with us for two days, and we missed them when their Circuit duties compelled them to reluctantly turn homewards. Of course, Padre Scott was with us, and his inspiring words on Easter Sunday morning surely led some to seek the "fuller life."

Rev. H. S. Kings, of Hawarden, was able, at the last minute, to leave his Circuit, and we were overjoyed to have him present. As was the case last year, so again this year, the parsons were to the fore on Easter Thursday, working with an energy and vim that showed they were no strangers to toil. Praise be to God, the bond between Bible Class boys and our Ministers is strengthening year by year.

Our Friends.—We have many worthy friends in Canterbury, friends who are always prepared to give practical assistance. Mr. C. Bennett, of Kaiapoi, again proved himself an invaluable ally, making most of the arrangements at the Kaiapoi end, and the Kaiapoi Methodists were generous almost to a fault. What Camper will ever forget that glorious tea on Good Friday evening? Town folk don't really know what a tea-meeting is, and our boys vowed they had never before sat down to such a spread. Rumour hath it that some of them

were forced to undo the buttons on the lower part of their waistcoats and the topmost portion of their nether-garments—and even then, delicacies sufficient to provide a good supper were left over. Surely this was a great achievement for the folk of Kaiapoi and neighbouring districts. Numerous gifts also found their way to the Camp—apples, pears, potatoes, carrots, and other things needful. And what shall we say of our farmer friends at Horrelville, who sent along four sheep and three sacks of "murphies" From a small country district this is a performance deserving of the highest praise. We can only say "Thank you, Kaiapoi and Horrelville friends; we think the world of you." Other gifts came from even further afield. Mutton and potatoes from Ashburton, mutton from Temuka and Oxford. You simply can't equal the Canterbury farming fraternity for open-hearted generosity.

Our Grafters.—Perhaps it is unwise to single any out, but many there are whose names should be recorded. Ern Down, Ern Billecliff, and Lin Lewis, controlling the Sports; Albert Holden, Fred. Colechin, Eric Gay, Dick Clark, C. Hardy, and others looking after the Commissariat; Jesse Colechin and Dick Hore supervising the Transport; Huia Beaumont, Charlie Thwaites, and Clarence Beeby buzzing around after items for the Camp Concert; W. B. Scott, C. Bennett, and Harry Moore seeing to accommodation requirements; Bob Rowan, A. Bonnington, and New Brighton boys carrying forms and distributing Hymnals; Alf. Lamont and Arthur Clements running the Canteen; Bert Down raking in the "dollars"; Dave Stallard and D. L. L. Lewis assisting the Y.M.C.A. outfit. I would fain tell of many another, J. Horrell, F. A. Sheat, M. Paulger, Charlie Purchase, all good men and true, who were always handy when work waited to be done. And I must not forget E. R. Christian, whose "Tin Lizzie" was made to serve many a useful turn, from "carting" straw to carrying the "wounded."

Our Cook.—He is a wonder—a real Heaven-sent gift. We would hardly dare hold a Camp without him. His meals were so appetising that many a Camper yielded to the temptation to over-eat—and then endured the penalty. The lady visitors went into raptures over his delicious scones. Hurrah for Mr. Mayfield, and long may God spare him to meet with us.

Our Misfortunes.—Of course we had them. A motor launch accident on Good Friday afternoon resulted in two of our campers having to return home, one with a fractured arm. We all felt genuinely sorry for Jack Fraer and G. Harvey. But they will soon be fit again, and looking forward to Easter 1923.

Our Sports.—They are recorded elsewhere, but I cannot refrain from jotting down a few stray thoughts. The running events were excellent, and some good times were put up. Of course, we expected much from A. L. Lewis and W. S. McClymont, and they did not disappoint us. But others are worthy of mention also. Those who saw the Junior Mile and Three Mile will never forget the fine fight put up by Ted Taylor (son of the late T. E. Taylor), a very young Junior, who lost by a few yards in each event to Rex Beaumont, after running splendidly. Gordon Booth, Rex Beaumont, Gordon Hoskin, and Perce Gay all ran well, winning their respective events in great style, and deserving well the spontaneous cheers of the on-lookers.

Our Morning Studies.—In the past, we have usually held a united morning study before breakfast. This Easter we arranged for a Leader to take the study in each sleeping-tent, and the idea worked well. The attendance at these morning meetings was excellent, and the manner in which the Study Leaders handled their topics from Lawton's "Discipleship" showed that they had made careful preparation. Being able to attend a meeting in one's pyjamas is certainly novel.

Our Divine Helper.—Most of our departments were well organised, but some things are beyond our control. We did our part as best we knew how, and then left the results with God. We trusted Him for the weather, we trusted Him for spiritual gifts, and He honoured our faith. The weather was gloriously fine, and the blessings were unstinted. God was with us, and those of us who had put some little time and thought into the Camp know now that our labours were not in vain—He granted the increase.

ELOCUTIONARY CUP CONTEST.

Competition for the Elocutionary Cup presented by Mr. Frank Thompson, was very keen, a large number of entries being received in each section. The "Prepared Speeches" did not reach a very high standard, although many of the efforts were very creditable. The placed men in this section were: First, A. T. Kent (East Belt); second, M. Paulger (Union); third, C. H. Colechin (Union).

Some excellent "Stump" speeches were made on the subject chosen, "Does a boy have a better time in life than a girl?" All the competitors were interesting, and some displayed remarkable eloquence and wit. The attention of the audience was held throughout, and the speakers were warmly applauded. Mr. H. Beaumont (East Belt) was placed first, Mr. A. T. Stone (Ashburton) second, and Mr. Don Hickman (Tinwald) third.

For the Scripture and Hymn sight-reading section, the judges chose Psalm 23, and two verses from "Nearer, My God, to Thee." Although the selections were familiar, the readers did not find their task too simple. First place was given to E. H. Smith (Union), second to Don Hickman (Tinwald), and third to Ron Miles (St. Albans).

East Belt won the Cup with 18 points, Union (Addington) following close with 17 points. Other Classes scored as follows:—Ashburton 5, Tinwald 5, St. Albans 1. On the whole, the contest was an

excellent one, and served to make the Camp more interesting. We anticipate that the struggle for supremacy will be even keener next Easter. The fact of the Contest being a Class one—the Class, not the individual, with the highest aggregate holding the Cup—served to secure the interest of many who would otherwise have been indifferent.

CHAFF.

Most of the Campers were content with blankets, but the Horrelville men brought a sheet (Sheat) with them.

Rev. C. A. Foston, who confiscated the Camp puppy, says that he is to be our Camp watchdog next Easter—the puppy, not Mr. Foston. He writes that our “mascot” is developing into a “very imp of mischief.” How very fitting.

Mr. Holden declines to believe that the Padres at the Front learned to do without sugar.

We hear plenty about “rolling stones,” but Ashburton has unearthed a “running Stone.”

The Scriptural injunction “take up thy bed and walk” was literally fulfilled on Easter Thursday evening. A long, long trail of boys gathered up their beds from a neighbouring straw-stack, and hugging their mattresses closely to their breasts, walked back to camp, leaving behind them another long, long trail. P.S.—This is no “stretcher.”

PERSONAL.

Mr. J. H. Blackwell, Mayor of Kaiapoi, was a frequent visitor at the Camp. On behalf of the residents of Kaiapoi, he formally extended a welcome to the Campers on Easter Thursday evening.

Among the many other visitors were Mr. David Jones, M.P., Revs. C. Abernethy, E. D. Patchett, J. Harris, H. Ryan, Burton, and Messrs. Dobbs, Royds, and Wilkinson (N.Z. Alliance deputation).

Our Camp this Easter included quite a number of Councillors—R. D. Martin, of Christchurch City

Council; A. Holden, of Sumner B.C.; W. D. Scott, of Kaiapoi B.C.; and C. S. Ayers and C. Thwaites, of Rangiora B.C. (B.C. meaning Borough Council in this instance, not Bible Class.)

CAMP MEETINGS.

“Will you write a report of the Camp Meetings?” Even the Camp Captain has to submit to the Camp Secretary, and so I promised to do my best. But how can I fulfil my promise? There were so many meetings, and at most of them I was not present. They were held at street corners, in quiet nooks in the park, even in the homes of the people. What was said at them I can’t even guess, for the Youth of Methodism has made such progress since I was a boy. The ease with which the meetings were arranged was a matter of surprise to me. But from what I saw of these meetings, speaker, and audience seemed to be on very good terms, and the attention was excellent. There are evidently many budding orators in the ranks of our B.C. men, and I strongly advise the speakers at these unauthorised meetings to try their power on an audience numbering more than one. These meetings affected, to some extent, the attendance at those presided over by the Camp Captain.

Our Campers numbered two hundred and fourteen, of whom one hundred and ninety-seven were members of our Bible Classes. No record of attendance at Camp Meetings is kept, and success is measured by comparing the attendance with that of the previous year. Judged by this standard, our meetings were highly successful. In view of the larger attendance at Camp, this was to be expected, but they would have been far more successful had every camper loyally supported the Camp programme.

Good Friday morning is unlike any other morning in the year. Christmas and New Year mornings have their own charm, and make their own appeal, but Good Friday morning greets us with a

smile that comes from a sorrow-lined face. It was eminently fitting that the first meeting of Camp should lead us to Calvary; it was still more fitting that that meeting should be followed by the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The tent was comfortably filled. A solemn calm settled down upon us as Rev. Walker led us under the shadow of the cross. Each of us felt the presence of the Thorn-crowned, felt His touch upon our shoulder, felt again the wondrous appeal of Him who bore our grief and carried our sorrow.

Our pianist, Mr. Thwaites, made himself more and more indispensable to our meetings. He is one of those "whose heart throbs through the music he plays us." More than flesh touched the keys as he led us in the universal favourite:

"Man of Sorrows! What a name
For the Son of God who came
Ruin'd sinners to reclaim.
Hallelujah! What a Saviour."

Most of those present remained to the Sacrament. Some partook of the sacred emblems for the first time, and thus signified their submission to Christ.

On Friday evening the Kaiapoi Church was well filled with Campers, the number of those attending unauthorised meetings being small. The service was preceded by half-an-hour with favourite hymns. Imagine about one hundred and eighty B.C. fellows singing "Diadem" and "Nativity," and ask yourself what it would sound like. I wish the pessimists among us had stood with me and looked into the faces of our fellows as they sang these rallying hymns of our faith. Methodism dying! Get into Camp with our Bible Classes, and, to use a common term, "ask yourself."

The sing-song tuned our souls, so that when the Rev. J. Napier Milne stood up to deliver his message he found us in a receptive mood. Once more the central truth of the Cross was proclaimed in Mr.

Milne's own felicity of speech, a felicity that did not lack grip. We faced again the inevitableness of sacrifice, we heard again the clarion call to service, enforced by the example and the imperative of the Cross. I heartily thanked the preacher for his message. "It is a privilege," he replied. "I thank your Executive for giving me the opportunity of speaking." "What sort of church parade have you had on Sunday at previous Camps?" I anxiously enquired as I saw the men drifting off by twos and threes. "It is usually a wash-out," was the reply. Imagine my delight, then, when church time came, to find about one hundred and thirty marshalling themselves for the march to church. Others were there before us, some followed after. The body of the church was filled with our men, and many occupied side seats.

"More life and fuller" was our Camp theme. Padre Scott's address was designed to illustrate and enforce this theme, and it was a timely address. "Life," said the preacher, "was one of the great words of the Bible. Life was man's greatest need. But real life comes only through sacrifice and service." Once again we felt the appeal of the Cross.

At 2.30 in the afternoon a Bible Class was held, led by Mr. Kings, our genial home missionary from Hiawarden. His task was an easy one. The subject to be discussed was, "Which is the greatest sphere of usefulness to which a young man may devote himself?" Sydenham Class advocated the claims of the Teaching Profession, the Ashburton Class the claims of Public Life, Edgeware Road Class pressed the claims of a Business Career, while St. Albans Class brought forward the claims of the Christian Ministry. Each of the four spheres had its advocates, and the discussion was animated and thought-provoking. The speakers faced the issues seriously, and so the element of debate was not prominent. Unfortunately, a time-table had to be adhered to, and the discussion was closed with many still wishing to speak.





CANTERBURY DISTRICT CAMP GROUP.

Of the service on Sunday evening I hesitate to write. I looked forward to it with fear and confidence. I realised the greatness of the opportunity, but I knew the service was the focus of a large number of praying people scattered throughout Canterbury. Mothers send their boys into camp with the earnest hope that in some one of its services they will greet Christ as their King. Frequently that faith is rewarded. My object in the service was to lead my hearers to a point of definite decision. During the Camp we heard much of the need of sacrifice; we heard much, too, of the claims of Christ upon our lives. I sought to bring my audience face to face with Christ, so that they were compelled to give an answer to Pilate's question, "What, then, shall I do with Jesus?" The service, as was to be expected, since it was the focus of the prayers of our people, was one of power. We faced with Pilate the "Inevitable Christ." Some found Him inescapable, and in them "Christ saw the travail of His Soul, and was satisfied." For these we thank God. That I closed the after-meeting too soon was a criticism passed upon the service. I was assured that there would have been other decisions had the meeting been prolonged. God alone knows that, but if anyone who reads these notes was present and felt impelled to yield to Christ, but did not, remember that the invitation is still being urged in the secret chamber of your own heart, and upon you rests the responsibility of the great decision. Christ is not less inevitable to you now than He was in that Camp service.

THE SPORTS.

To give a full and detailed account of the "Sports" at the Kaiapoi Camp, I would have to describe to you a majority of the fellows in Camp, for they were practically all sports, and whether the tough veteran with a large list of camps to his credit, or the raw junior fresh from his mother's apron-strings, you would find them all good "sports," and ready to take their place, and do what was required of them. As regards the ath-

letic events, these were most satisfactory, and some very excellent form was shown. All the events were very evenly contested, and although no times were taken (considering the rough state of the ground), the performances were very good.

The contest for the Junior Shield was exceptionally keen, the issue being in doubt up to the last event of the day. By winning the Tug-o'-War, the Union (Addington) Class gained the coveted trophy, a very small margin of points separating them from Ashburton. Apart from the athletic events, our other sporting items were not so interesting.

In the Tennis Tournament, Messrs. J. and E. Down (Union) again showed their superiority, and won fairly comfortably. Messrs. D. M. Hay and W. Hamer, of the same Class, being runners-up. A scratch Cricket match was played on Easter Monday morning, and in the afternoon the Rugby enthusiasts played a game. It is unfortunate that our



MR. W. L. THOMAS, Cur New Zealand Secretary.

Monday's programme always seems to fall fairly flat. For some reason or other, probably because they want to get back to their wives or sweethearts, a large number of the fellows seem to think that as soon as breakfast is over on Monday morning it is a signal to start packing up and drifting back home. Somebody has suggested a picnic or ramble with the ladies for Easter Monday, and perhaps this might be a suggestion for next year's programme.

The following are the results of the Athletic events, the abbreviations used being: A., Ashburton; U., Union; E., Edgeware Road; N.B., New Brighton; S.A., St. Albans; C., Cashmere; E.B., East Belt.

SENIOR.

100 Yards: 1, A. L. Lewis (A); 2, S. McClymont (A); 3, G. Barker (EB).
 220 Yards: 1, A. L. Lewis (A); 2, S. McClymont (A); 3, G. Barker (EB).
 440 Yards: 1, S. McClymont (A); 2, G. Booth (U); 3, G. Barker (EB).
 880 Yards: 1, S. McClymont (A); 2, G. Booth (U); 3, C. Perry (E).
 One Mile: 1, G. Booth (U); 2, R. Stone (A); 3, C. Perry (E).
 Three Miles: 1, R. Stone (A); 2, A. McClymont (A); 3, D. M. Hay (U).
 High Jump: 1, S. McClymont (A); 2, N. Ibbotson (A); 3, E. Silby (SA).
 Long Jump: 1, A. L. Lewis (A); 2, N. Ibbotson (A); 3, T. McCaffrey (U).
 Hop-Step Jump: 1, S. McClymont (A); 2, L. Moore (E); 3, T. McCaffrey (U).
 Putting the Shot: 1, S. McClymont (A); 2, A. L. Lewis (A); 3, C. Hardy (A).
 Relay Race: 1, Ashburton; 2, East Belt.
 Tug-o'-War: 1, Union; 2, Edgeware.
Shield Points: Ashburton, 73; Union, 20; Edgeware, 8; East Belt, 6; St. Albans, 1.

JUNIOR.

100 Yards: 1, R. Beaumont (A); 2, G. Hoskin (U); 3, P. Gray (U).

220 Yards: 1, G. Hoskin (U); 2, I. Skipworth (E); 3 (equal), H. Johnson (A) and R. Noonan (NB).

440 Yards: 1, G. Hoskin (U); 2, R. Noonan (NB); 3, P. Gray (U).

880 Yards: 1, P. Gray (U); 2, H. Hore (U); 3, R. Brown (SA).
 One Mile: 1, R. Beaumont (A); 2, E. B. Taylor (C); 3, H. Hodge (Sydenham).

High Jump: 1, R. Noonan (NB); 2 (equal), P. Gray (U) and N. Johnson (A).

Long Jump: 1, R. Beaumont (A); 2, N. Johnson (A); 3, P. Gray (U).

Hop-Step-Jump: 1, H. Johnson (A); 2, N. Johnson (A); 3, P. Gray (U).

Putting the Shot: 1, R. Miles (SA); 2, I. Skipworth (E); 3, N. Johnson (A).

Three Miles: 1, R. Beaumont (A); 2, E. B. Taylor (C); 3, W. Hamer (U).

Relay Race: 1, Union; 2, Ashburton.

Tug-o'-War: 1, Union; 2, Edgeware.

100 Yards (under 16): 1, C. Perry; 2, A. Hay; 3, F. Leadley.

Shield Points: Union (Addington), 40; Ashburton, 37½; Edgeware, 9; New Brighton, 8½; St. Albans, 6; Cashmere, 6; Sydenham, 1.

"TUCKER TIME."

All are agreed that the cook, Mr. Mayfield, and his assistants did valiantly, and placed on the "menu" very appetising meals. Let it be said to the credit of the campers that they showed their appreciation in a very practical manner. A roped door-way and a strong man were necessary to keep back the crowd who would collect outside the mess tent, sometimes ten or fifteen minutes before the scheduled meal time, and when the barrier was removed food disappeared at an alarming rate. "Any more meat?" "Is that all the snuds?" "What about returns?" "Leave some for the orderlies," and such like were the meal-time cries, and the cooks and O.C. Mess had to get "up steam" and "go some" to supply the demands of the inner nature of men.

At first there was a lack of sugar—ask Rev. W. B. Scott. Later the Commissariat Department withdrew the veto, and sugar was placed on the tables, and even the “sweetest tooth” ceased to complain. The first sugar lack, however, had its value, for at the morning service on Easter Sunday the Juniors of Kaiapoi Church were treated by their minister to a talk on “The value and use of sugar.”

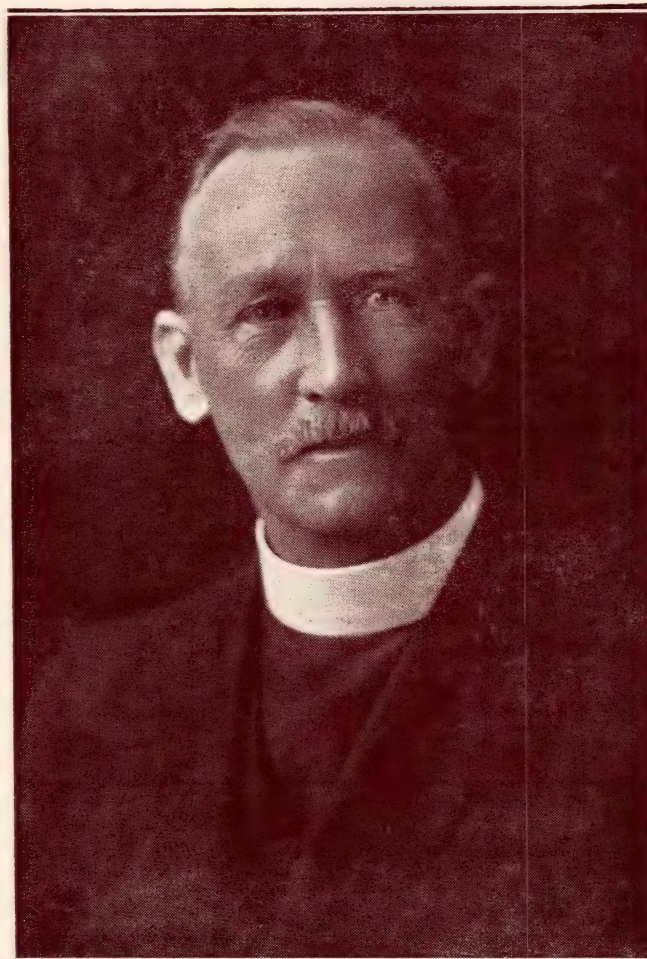
On Good Friday afternoon the Camp Commissariat Department had a holiday, and the ladies of the Kaiapoi and Clarkville Churches entertained the Campers to a “High Tea.” To describe the abundance of good things which were provided is beyond my pen, and only those who partook of this feast can appreciate these words. To say that there was enough is poor phrasing, for when all had had an “elegant sufficiency” there was still much over, which our hosts very generously packed in cases and sent along to the Camp, thus providing supper for that evening. Well done, Kaiapoi and Clarkville ladies! We need not tell you that your generosity was appreciated.

On Saturday, about 500 visitors were guests of the Camp at tea, and it took three sittings to meet the occasion. All seemed to be satisfied to partake of the meal in camp style, and there were no complaints. The great Napoleon, in that oft-repeated saying, declared the value of well feeding the troops, and I am sure in a very true sense it was “Tucker Time” in Camp which helped very materially to make the Canterbury Centenary Camp a big success.

“THE Y.M. STUNT.”

“Yes, righto! In the Y.M. tent.” How many times per day did we hear this? Certainly the chief social interests in the Camp centred round the sign of the “Red Triangle.” Messrs. Stallard and Lewis, under the supervision of “Ted” Colechin, were kept going from daylight to dark, and right worthily did these

two deputy Y.M. Secretaries acquit themselves. Happy crowds of Methodist B.C. men were constantly gathered at the magazine table and round the piano, while the click of the ping-pong bats was almost continually to be heard.



REV. CHARLES H. LAWS, D.D., President of Conference.

Auckland District Centenary Camp,

Held at Point Chevalier.



SITE OF AUCKLAND DISTRICT CAMP.

CAMP EXECUTIVE:

Camp Captain: F. E. Sutherland, Takapuna; Camp Sergeant-Major: W. L. Roberts, Devonport; Chairman of Committee: A. J. Buttle, Mt. Eden; Meetings: P. Dellow, Mt. Eden; Sports: F. E. Sutherland, Takapuna; Entertainment: R. A. Lochore, Epsom; Accommodation: L. G. Simpson, Franklin Road; Commissariat: A. Clist, Devonport; Transport: V. M. Rowland, Dominion Road; Secretary: J. S. Ryan, King'sland; Treasurer: A. G. Harris, Newmarket.

The young manhood of the Auckland District Methodism assembled at Pt. Chevalier on the evening of April 13th, 1922, to participate in their Annual Camp.

The weather conditions were not all that could be desired, but it takes more than a shower or two of rain to dampen the ardour of young Methodists. We commenced our Camp with a cheering cup of

tea and a welcome from our Captain, Mr. Frank Sutherland, which stayed any misgivings which we might have had regarding the success of our Camp, and filled us with a fire of expectancy, which was amply fulfilled in the good times that followed.

SPORTS.

Despite the weather, which was inclined to be showery, a very enjoyable day was spent on Easter Saturday. All the events were keenly contested.

The local sports banner had been competed for at the annual picnic on January 3rd, the Executive decided to have a pennant for the camp sports. This pennant was to be won outright, becoming the property of the Class gaining the highest number of points. Included in the pennant competition were the elocutionary contests and the ping-pong, draughts, and quoits competitions.



AUCKLAND CAMP DINING HALL.

Also in the athletic part of the programme some additions were made to the usual events.

Some very close finishes were witnessed. Gardiner, of Kingsland, did some good work, and shows promise of big things on the sports field in the future.

The pennant was won by Kingsland, with 33 points, Mt. Eden second with 16 points. Although they were unplaced, Dominion Road Class put up a good fight, and kept the barrackers at fever heat all the time.

The event which was of greatest interest was the Tug-o'-War, this being a new event on our sports programme. Eleven teams of five men each were entered, and some very stiff pulls resulted. What few visitors braved the weather and came out went back home absolutely hoarse from barracking. A very fine team was put in by the students from "Dunholme," and this team eventually won after some very strenuous pulls, with Devonport second, and Kingsland third. It is the general opinion that, after the popularity this event enjoyed, it cannot be omitted from future sports programmes.

In the Relay Race, a slight change was made, and instead of confining it practically to sprinters, the following distances were arranged: 1st man 440 yards, 2nd 220 yards, 3rd 110 yards, and 4th 100 yards. This made it possible for teams of a much higher standard to be put forward. This race was won with a big margin by Kingsland, although Dominion Road, who were running second, were unfortunate in having one of their men fall at a bad place in the track.

The Three Mile Road Race was a good race, although the entries were very small, and was won by Bulford, of Kingsland, with R. Burton, of Papatoetoe, a very close second.

The quoits, ping-pong, and draughts competitions were very popular, especially the ping-pong, where some very exciting games were played. These

indoor games proved very valuable, as Friday was pouring wet, and the intervals between the meetings would have dragged considerably without them.

A few friends visited the Camp during Saturday, and stayed to the camp concert in the evening, a good programme being given by the Campers, assisted by some of the young ladies. A jazz band of Dominion Road boys rendered an item, much to the amusement of all.

Monday was devoted to games. A very hard-fought game of Rugby was played between Kingsland and Dominion Road Classes, resulting in a win for Kingsland by 18 points to nil.

Mr. Frank Sutherland was in charge of the sports, and controlled them in his usual able manner.

ELOCUTIONARY.

There were three competitors in the Prepared Speech section: Messrs. Beauman, of Whangarei, M. Rudd, of Mt. Eden, and R. A. Lochore, of Epsom. The speakers were given the choice of two subjects, viz.: (1) The place recreation should have in our lives; (2) Speech from a verse of Scripture (competitor's own selection). All the competitors gave evidence of sound preparation, and much thought on their subjects. A certain amount of freedom and forcefulness was in evidence, and will doubtless be considerably increased with riper experience. The highest points in this section were awarded to M. Rudd (Mt. Eden), who spoke on 2 Timothy, 3rd chapter, 7th verse, "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

The Impromptu Speech section was to have been the "Piece de resistance" of our Saturday night concert. We were rejoiced to receive some 8 or 9 entries, and a subject in lighter vein was allotted, viz., "If I were Bill Massey . . . !" One or two made heroic attempts to fill the time by wit

and sound matter, but the majority found it extremely difficult to break away from that haven of refuge: "Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen." All honour to all who made the attempt, and may we find them all to the fore at our next camp.

After the entrants had been put through their paces, the Chairman, Mr. Frank Sutherland, called on the two judges, Messrs. W. Blight and P. Dellow, to deliver impromptu speeches on "Batching," and "What it feels like to be lonely" respectively, they in turn retaliating by putting him up to speak on "A Man Shopping at Milne & Choyce."

The highest points in the Impromptu Speech were awarded to Mr. Feibig, of Dunholme College.

The Scripture and Hymn Reading Contest were set down for Sunday morning before the service. These also attracted a number of entries, and several good renderings were given. The highest award in this section was given to R. A. Lochore, of Epsom.

Altogether, the Elocutionary Section of our Pennant Competition was very satisfactory, and we have every reason to hope that it will develop greatly as our camps come and go.

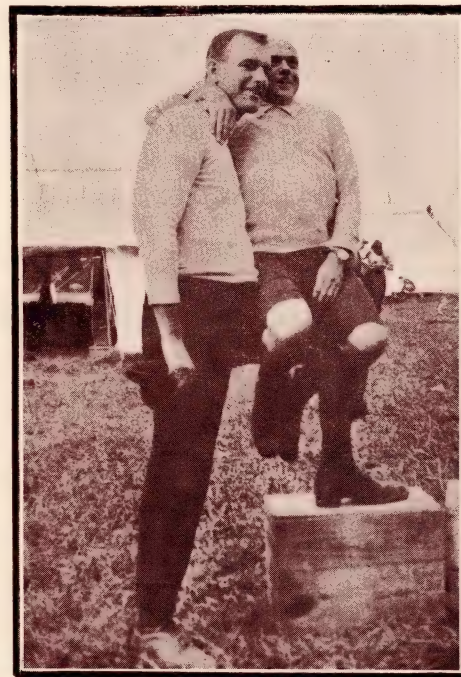
SOCIAL.

Those who were responsible for our camping ground could hardly have chosen a better spot, it being near to town and easy of access, yet having the advantages of the beach.

All through the Camp the greatest feeling of brotherliness pervaded, and although there were only about 100 all told in Camp, we were a very happy family. There was keen rivalry between the various tents for the coveted honour of being awarded the prize for the tidiest tent, and the Captain was hard put to decide which was indeed the winner.

As usual, Saturday was given over to sports, and the Camp concert was a huge success. In this connection we must not forget to mention the

visitors who braved the weather and kindly and ably contributed to our programme. A good deal of fun was caused by the impromptu speeches, especially those given by Messrs. Dellow, Sutherland and Blight.



Two Well-Known Auckland B.C. Men, FRANK SUTHERLAND and PERCY DELLOW.

Monday was given over to games of various kinds, and at six o'clock we broke camp, it must be admitted, very reluctantly. We had had a time ever to be remembered, and to use the oft-repeated words, we "look forward to next Easter."

SPIRITUAL.

The primary aim of our Bible Class Camps is to bring about a stronger influence of union between

the various Classes. In endeavouring to effect this end we believe that the whole man should be catered for. Sport provides for his physical life, good company and tent life provide for his social life, while his spiritual life is by no means neglected.

One only needs to glance through our syllabus to see how well we were catered for in this direction. The Camp was organised into circles consisting of eight or ten men each under a leader, and we were very fortunate to secure the services of the students from "Dunholme" for this work, which they willingly performed.

Our study book was "Paul in His New World," by the Rev. J. C. Jamieson, and it dealt with the subject under five sections: "Paul Finds His New World," "The Aims of Paul," "Paul's Motives," "Paul's Methods," and "The Secrets of Paul's Power."

The leader's preparatory circle was under the able direction of the Rev. W. T. Blight, B.A., who was in camp with us, and the inspiration gained in this circle enabled the leaders to do some solid work for the Master. We all left the Camp feeling that we knew something more than the mere history of St. Paul. We had peeped into his inner life and discovered some of the secrets and sources of his experience, and found that these are available for all God's children if we will but make use of them.

In addition to our circles, we had our devotional service on the morning of Good Friday, when the Rev. W. G. Slade, M.A., came to address us. He spoke well and effectively, giving to many of us a fresh vision of the Christ.

Sunday is the day to which all old campers look forward, as it is our big day, the day for which the Camp exists. We were specially favoured in having speakers who have the interests of young men at heart. Mr. W. J. Holdsworth, of Mt. Albert, conducted the morning service, and ably demonstrated to us the fact that "No man liveth unto

himself," and that if we would make the best of our life we must be prepared to sacrifice and spend ourselves in the service of others. The Rev. W. A. Sinclair, who would have been in camp with us if ill-health had not intervened, came out to take the evening service. He gave us an inspiring address, effectively placing before us the claims of Christ, which we are happy to say resulted in a large number of the Campers declaring their intention to serve Christ from that hour.

We held our camp-fire meeting in the dining hall, and those who stayed enjoyed a most helpful sing-song and testimony meeting. It was good to hear the youngsters get up and say how they had been helped by the camp life, and it cheered us to know that the Camp was fulfilling its purpose.

The Rev. C. H. Olds, B.A., came out on the Monday morning. He addressed us on the subject of "Isaiah's Call," and pointed out to us how that Christ was calling for men to carry on His work. He stressed the needs of the ministry, and also showed that the work of Christ can be done in every walk of life. We are not all called to preach, but we can live Christ, and take Him with us into our various avocations, thus providing the strong Christian manhood for which the world is calling. An effective appeal was made, and many signified their intention, by God's grace, to live for this high ideal.

We had two other speakers during Camp, Mr. W. R. Tuck, M.A., who spoke on the Prohibition question, and our kindly friend Dr. Pettit, who gave us some sound advice and wholesome instruction on a subject of intimate concern to young men.

The spiritual tone throughout the whole Camp was high, and when later in the day we broke camp, it was with mingled feelings of regret and resolve; regret that another "hilltop" experience was past; resolve to be more worthy of the vision we had seen. To all of us the Camp has been a season of spiritual refreshing, and as we look back to these experiences, we feel, as St. Paul put it: "**Strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man.**"

Otago District Centenary Camp,

Held at Vauxhall, Dunedin.

CAMP EXECUTIVE.

Camp Captain: Rev. W. J. Oxbrow (President of Union); Deputy Camp Captain: Rev. O. S. Pearn; Camp Secretary: W. E. M'Indoe; Financial Secretary: J. A. Duncan.

Convenors of Committees; Transport and Accommodation, A. Adie; Commissariat, A. T. McIndoe; Musical Director and Pianist, G. Wilkinson; Sports, T. Miller; Canteen, Rev. O. S. Pearn; General, Mr. Fisher.

Beautiful for situation was the spot chosen for the Otago Centenary Camp. The scene on Good Friday morning, as we looked across the calm waters of the Bay, the sunlight reflected from a thousand windows, was only equalled in the evening, when the city was lit up by electricity. The weather on the whole was good, permitting us on most occasions to take our meals out of doors. The

cook (a returned soldier, with a D.C.M. medal) rose to the occasion, and gave us food well-cooked, and plentiful. The majority of the Campers were young lads, but they were all loyal and good-hearted. The Rev. W. J. Oxbrow occupied the post of Camp Captain, and he was ably assisted by the Rev. O. S. Pearn.

The early morning meetings were well attended, and gave a good start for the day, being in charge of Cargill Road, Dundas Street, Trinity, and St. Kilda Classes. The subjects for study were "The Crucified Saviour," "Our Task in the Solomons," "The Continuous Work of the Risen Christ," and "Christian Courage." The first service in Camp on Good Friday morning was conducted by the Rev. B. Metson, and was followed by the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. In the afternoon the first part of the Elocutionary Contest was held. The Leaders and Secretaries met for business.



OTAGO DISTRICT
CAMP GROUP.

In the evening the Rev. M. A. Rugby Pratt gave an inspiring address at the Centenary Meeting of the Camp.

Saturday was "Visitors and Sports Day." Dundas Street Class were successful in retaining the Sports Banner with 28 points, Cargill Road being again second with 24 points. The principal winners were Millar and Hetherington for Dundas Street, and the Ashley Brothers from Cargill Road. There was a large number of visitors present in the afternoon, and over 100 stayed for tea, and the Camp Concert. In addition to the Jazz Band and other musical items, the Impromptu Speech Competition, for which there were eight entries, took place.

On Sunday morning the Campers marched to the St. Kilda Church, when the Rev. W. J. Oxbrow, Camp Captain, conducted an inspiring service. The Campers occupied the choir seats, and the front seats in the church, the singing being great. At the conclusion of his address, the preacher gave a testimony in favour of Bible Class Camps, and declared himself a convert to the Movement. Prior to the service, Dr. C. North (who had motored in from Warrington for the purpose) gave an instructive talk to the Campers. In the afternoon, Rev. C. Eaton conducted a model Bible Class, and gave some good advice on different methods of conducting a Class. The day concluded with the Camp Service, which was held indoors, the large room being packed. The sing-song started shortly after 6 o'clock, Trevor Millar being in charge, and George Wilkinson in his usual place at the piano, assisted by the Camp Orchestra. Rev. O. S. Pearn took charge at 7 o'clock, and gave a soul-stirring address, the spiritual atmosphere being good, and it was evident that the Spirit was working mightily. One after another the Campers rose and took a stand for Christ, or re-consecrated themselves to His service, until nearly everyone in the room had spoken, and when Mr. Pearn suggested that the usual "scrap" be postponed until the morning, his

suggestion met with general approval. Shortly after half-past ten the meeting ended, but in the calm of the Sabbath night, the Campers could be seen in twos and threes wandering over the moon-lit fields, or talking quietly in the tents. Verily, God was with us!

During the night heavy rain came on, to the discomfort of some of the Campers, and breakfast was laid indoors, but the weather cleared during the morning, and kits were packed. At the conclusion of dinner, the Camp Captain spoke a few words of farewell, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to those who had helped to make the Camp a success.

In the afternoon about 40 of the Campers walked to the Girls' Camp at Larnach's Castle, a distance of about 6½ miles each way, and then, after a late tea, the final farewells were spoken, and the hills once more re-echoed with the Camp chorus. One of the Campers offered up a brief prayer of thankfulness to God for His goodness, and the Otago Centenary Camp became a pleasant memory.

On Tuesday morning the Transport Convenor (Bert Adie), with his assistants, got to work, the tents were struck, and the place cleaned up, all kits and goods being returned. The thanks of the Union go out to the Presbyterian Social Service Committee for granting the use of their grounds and building, and also to the many friends for donations of provisions, etc., which helped tremendously in the success of the Camp.

The Executive and Committee did a lot of hard work both before and during Camp, and thereby enabled the Campers to have a really good time. The Canteen was in charge of Rev. Pearn, who had with him Tom Todd and Ray Chivers as assistants. It was dubbed "Parson Pearn's Pub," but before long Dundas Street men had added a few "P's," until it read: **Poor, Pale People Particularly Patronise Parson Pearn's Pernicious Profiteering Private Prohibition Pub.** (Next, please!)

A pleasing feature of the Camp was the interest taken in it by the Dunedin Ministers, and with

one exception they were all there on one or more occasions. A word of praise is due to our young Camp Secretary (Will McIndoe), who was always handy when wanted, and was not afraid of work.

ELOCUTIONARY COMPETITION.

There were seven entries for this contest. For the Prepared Speech, three of the competitors spoke on the subject of "The Influence of Methodism in the National Life of the Dominion." The others chose "Sabbath Observance." Gordon Adams, speaking on the latter subject, secured most marks.

The story of the Prodigal Son was the subject for the Bible reading, and "Peace, Perfect Peace," for the hymn reading. R. Moffatt and E. Sayers secured top marks in this section.

The Impromptu Speeches were given at the Camp Concert on the subject of "Should Girls Play Football?" Some amusing speeches were made, and George Wilkinson was judged to have given the best performance. When the total points were counted up, it was found that E. Sayers was first with 72 points, and R. Moffatt second with 70.

Mr. Fleming, of the Dunedin Shakespeare Club, acted as judge, and was ably assisted by the Rev. B. Metson. The judge expressed his congratulations to all of the competitors who had taken part in the contest.

SPORTS RESULTS.

The Sports were held on Visitors' Day, and the finals were got off in the presence of a large number of visitors. Mr. B. Rosevear represented the Otago A.A. Centre, and made an efficient judge. The short distance races were run at a disadvantage, owing to the lack of a good track. The competition was for the Banner presented by the Young Women's Union, and no individual prizes were given. The Dundas Street Class succeeded in retaining the Banner with a score of 28 points. Car-gill Road coming second with 24 points. The following were the winners of the individual events:—

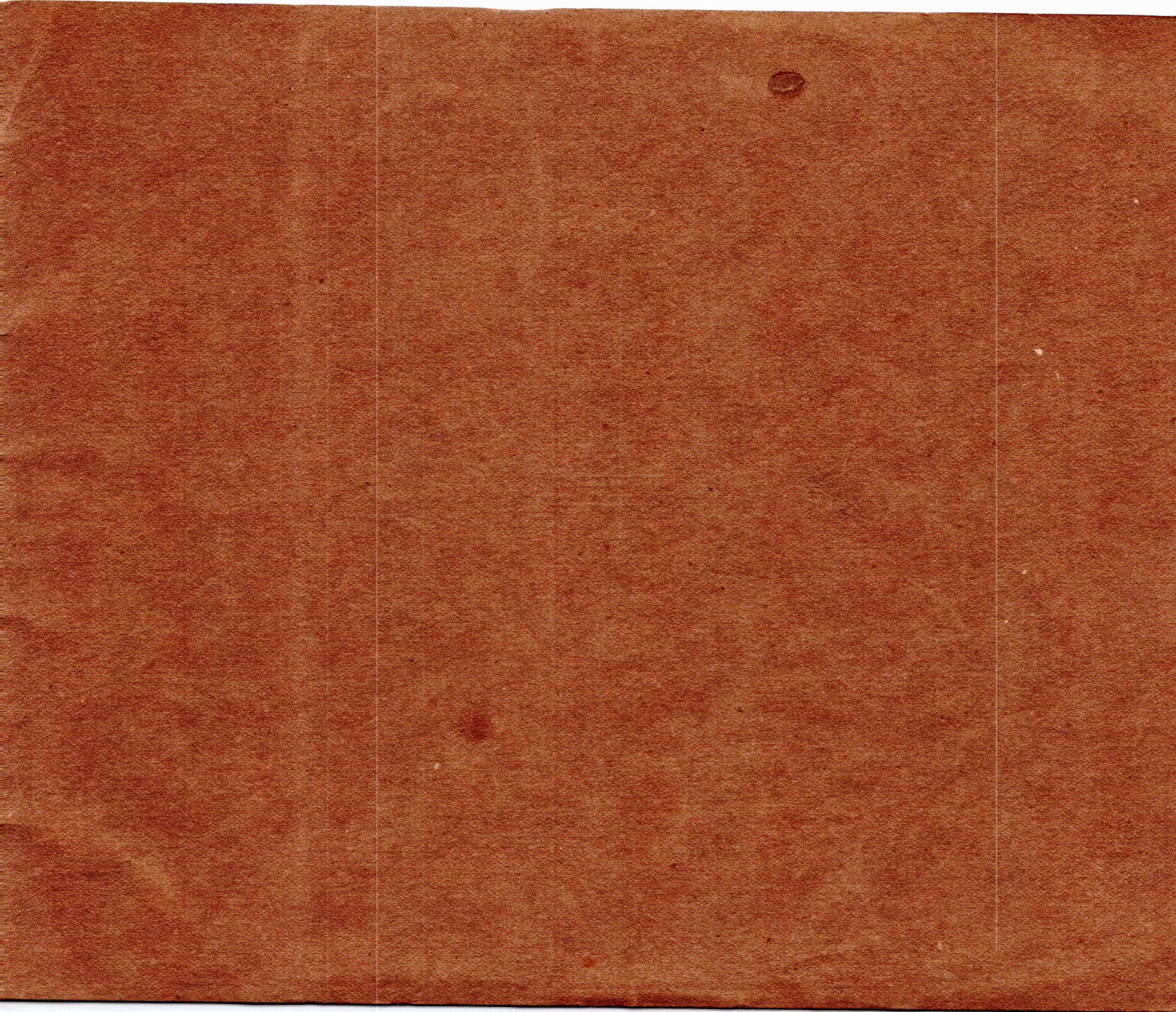
100 yds.: T. Miller; 220 yds.: T. Miller; 440 yds.: H. Lang; 880 yds.: H. Ashley; One Mile: H. Ashley; Three Miles: H. Ashley; Hop, Step and Jump: T. Miller; Long Jump: T. Miller.

CAMP IMPRESSIONS.

BY THE CAMP CAPTAIN, REV. W. J. OXBROW.

I went to the Easter Camp held at Vauxhall, Dunedin, with an open mind. I was prepared to be convinced of the wisdom or otherwise of holding these camps, and I am now persuaded that an annual Bible Class Camp is one of the best ideas we have yet evolved. As this was my first experience of Camp life, I am not in a position to compare this Camp with others that have been held in Dunedin, or other parts of the Dominion, but if any of these have produced better results, then all that can be said is that the B.C. Camps must be doing a splendid work.

I was present at the Camp most of the time, and was not conscious of a jarring note throughout the whole of the four days, and one of the most encouraging features of Camp life was the attendance recorded at all the devotional exercises and religious services. We had not to beg members to attend these functions—they were as enthusiastic in these matters as in all other departments of Camp life. It seems to me that we have here a solution of the problem that we have been trying to solve for years, viz., how to hold our young men. My answer, from what I have seen with my own eyes is, promote the work of the Bible Classes and continue to hold the Easter Camps. The young men take to camp life like ducks to water, and the spiritual aspect of the work seems to them the most natural thing in the world. This is certainly most refreshing after our experience in other departments of Church effort. The singing was something to be remembered, as indeed was everything associated with the Camp. The Vauxhall Camp of 1922 will never be forgotten. I for one am a convert to the Camp Policy for life.



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